

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of October 21, 2008 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

#### ***Regarding Amendments***

In the Amendments:

claim 1 is amended to omit recitation of the "tamper detection line", to specify that the memory of each chip is flash memory, and to clarify that the secret information in each chip is located in a different location in the flash memory relative to locations in which the same secret information is stored in the flash memory of a plurality of the other chips. Support for this amendment can be found in paragraphs [8198]-[8229] of the present specification;

claim 2 is unchanged; and

claim 3 is amended to conform with amended claim 1.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

#### ***Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections***

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2 and 3 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Gilbert in view of Bergum, for at least the following reasons.

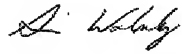
Both Gilbert and Bergum disclose storing "secret information" in ROM type memory (see col. 6, lines 12-17 of Gilbert and col. 2, lines 32-38 of Bergum), not flash memory as in the claimed invention.

Further, contrary to the Examiner's contentions, Gilbert merely discloses at col. 6, lines 18-22 and col. 7, lines 55-65 that the different keys K and K' are stored in the same memory 13 of the electronic chip 1 at different locations, not that the same "secret information" is stored in different locations of flash memory in different chips, as is required by the claimed invention. Furthermore, Bergum does not provide any disclosure which makes up for this deficiency in Gilbert.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

Applicant/s:



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